IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Louis J. Bintz et al. Art Unit : 1732
Serial No. : 10/633,955 Examiner : Mathieu D. Vargot
Filed : August 4, 2003
Title : METHOD OF FABRICATING ELECTRO-OPTIC POLYMER WAVEGUIDE DEVICES INCORPORATING ELECTRO-OPTICALLY ACTIVE POLYMER CLADS

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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REPLY TO ACTION OF JANUARY 11, 2006

In reply to the Final Office Action of January 11, 2006, Applicant submits the following remarks.

Claim rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, and 16 as being anticipated by Dorn et al. for reasons set forth in paragraph 1 of the office action dated 06/30/2005. The Examiner claims that Dorn et al. teach a method of making a polymer waveguide structure by depositing different layers of nonlinear optical films on a substrate, followed by poling and cross-linking the films to make an optical switch. However, the method taught by Dorn et al. does not anticipate the claims of the pending application for the following reasons.

Dorn et al. disclose a method for producing an optical switch. There are fundamental distinctions between an optical switch and an optical waveguide, both in methods of fabrication, use, and intended application. An optical switch of the type described by Dorn et al. uses attached electrodes to generate static electric fields in a polymer film, creating three-dimensional static gratings (i.e., diffraction patterns) with which light can interact thereby. The optical switch

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